

Quid Novi

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REPORT OF THE AD HOC CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

FACULTY OF LAW, MCGILL UNIVERSITY

MARCH, 1997

This report follows those of the Committee on the Future of the McGill Faculty of Law (September, 1995: Chair, Professor R. Macdonald; Dean S. Toope, Professors G. Bell, J. Glenn, Ms. Mary-Pat Cormier) and of the Ad Hoc Curriculum Review Committee (April, 1996: Chair, Professor S. Van Praagh; Professors M. Cantin Cumyn, I. Cotler, D. Jutras, D. Klinck, Ms. H. Williams). Following the extensive consultations and reports of these two earlier committees, the mandate given to the Ad Hoc Curriculum Implementation Committee was to make specific recommendations for curriculum and programme reform. The Implementation Committee met weekly from October of the present academic year in order to formulate this report and its recommendations. The Implementation Committee was composed of Professor P. Glenn (chair), Professors D. Jutras, N. Kasirer and S. Van Praagh, and Ms. A. Laing and Ms. C. Millette.

Objectives of curriculum and programme reform

Three main objectives of curriculum and programme reform emerged from the reports of the previous two committees. These are: i) defining the role of the McGill Faculty of Law in Quebec, in Canada, and at the international level; ii) improving the existing programme, to

better reflect this role; and iii) ensuring that the financial and human resources of the Faculty are used as efficiently as possible (Curriculum Review Report, at 1). In the view of the committee, these three objectives can be pursued simultaneously and the recommendations of this report are designed to do so.

i) **Role of McGill Faculty of Law.** The "future of Quebec, Canada and international society" were earlier identified as bearing on the Faculty's definition of its role (Future Report, p. 3). This was later refined to suggest adoption by the Law Faculty of a "broader multi-faceted identity," building on existing teaching of both civil and common law and the strong public law legacy of the Faculty (Curriculum Review Report, at 3). No longer limited to the teaching of civil law in English, nor to the training of lawyers for practice in Canada, the excellence of the Faculty would be grounded in "the development of broadly-based jurists aware of different and overlapping legal traditions" (Curriculum Review Report, at 3). The Committee adopted these statements of the role of the Faculty as a guide in its discussion of programme improvement.

ii) **Programme improvement.** The Committee viewed this as its largest task. Since the National Programme had been identified as the Faculty's "principal competitive advantage" (Future Report, at 4), the

Suite en page 3

Top Ten Reasons

Why I Shouldn't Get A Job

- 10) I would write all my briefs and memos in "top ten" form.
- 9) I'd probably refer to the senior partners as Ernest and Julio Gallo.
- 8) I wear a "born to work *pro bono*" button on my interview suit.
- 7) I can't work in any firm that doesn't have a fan like the one in room 102.
- 6) My CV was printed on the back of my Common Law Property summary (that oughta scare 'em).
- 5) Cause I'm too sexy for this firm, too sexy for this firm, too sexy ...
- 4) I dress up in a gorilla costume for my interviews (Hey, I thought it was just as good as a monkey suit).
- 3) Every time I get close to being hired, someone discovers my previous convictions for dwarf tossing.
- 2) I had 50 pizzas delivered to Lavery de Billy last week.
- 1) Dean "Darth Vader" Toope will use Jedi mind tricks to convince the interviewers that I'm "not the student they're looking for".

BCL III &

LION TRAINER

STEVEN

LEITMAN

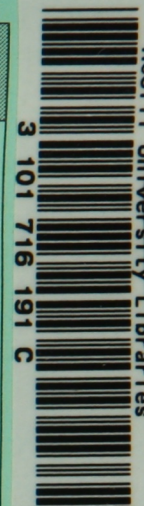
In this issue Dans ce numéro

EN DIRECT DE BERLIN 5

FACULTY'S TRIP TO SCC 6

TOPIC 3 X

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DON'T FORCE THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME

GREGORY
LLB III
MACKENZIE

In the next two weeks Faculty Council will consider a number of curriculum reform proposals brought forward by the *Ad Hoc Committee Curriculum Implementation Committee*. These proposed changes represent the culmination of two-and-a-half years of broad and comprehensive consultation. Most will result in substantial improvements to the National Programme. This is exciting. One will eliminate the option of doing a single degree and force all McGill law students to do a 4-year program. This is distressing.

Our Faculty's success relies upon one crucial equation: our ability to attract the best students and professors from both Civil and Common jurisdictions. In 1997, it is our greatest, and perhaps our only strength. At this point in our history, the brain succeeds in spite of the body. In the midst of McGill's crumbling infrastructure, this remains Canada's leading law school based on its intellectual, rather than its physical self.

It has become clear in recent years that curriculum reform is necessary. Improvements must be made to the structure and content of the National Programme. However, the plan to force the National Programme in order to save it is a most destructive one. The elimination of the single degree option will destroy half of what makes us successful; while McGill will surely continue to attract the best students within Quebec, the quality of student from out-of-province will decrease dramatically. Under a mandatory 4-year

tinguishes McGill from other leading Common Law schools. It's why the great majority of us chose to come here.

However, the conversion of the National Programme option into an obligation will produce a dramatically different result among prospective McGillers. Much as out-of-province students love the idea of the National Programme, no one cares to be proposed to on the first date. Students who chose McGill are willing to leave their home province, move to Quebec and engage an interest in a legal system with which they are barely acquainted. They ask only that they not be forced to commit on the basis of an admissions brochure. Is it too much too ask?

What better way to measure the success of the New National Programme than to give students choice? If we make the right changes, students will surely choose to come *and* to stay. Some won't. Some will find that the National Programme is not what they expected or (rather suddenly, as was the case this year) not what they can afford. So be it. Rather than treating LL.B.'ers and B.C.L.'ers as the Grand Failures of the Faculty, why not accept them as the price we gladly pay for attracting the best students in Canada?

By eliminating the single degree option and compelling the New National Programme, we will force top out-of-province students to go elsewhere. This will leave the Faculty in the unfortunate position of either having to extend offers to lower quality out-of-province students or make them to more deserving students inside Quebec; the former produces a lop-

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Announcements

1997 POST GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS applications (Botsford Busted, John W. Cooke, K.C. Prize, Macdonald Travelling*, Thomas Shearer Stewart Travelling, Spiegel Sohmer Taxation) are available from the OUS. **Deadline for submission: 1st April 1997.**

*Students considering applying for the Macdonald Travelling Scholarship should be aware of revised terms, printed here for your information:

Macdonald Travelling Scholarship

Founded by the will of the late Sir William Macdonald "for the purpose of enabling the English-speaking Law Students

Policy

1. Students are not to be penalized if they cannot write examinations or be otherwise evaluated on their religious holy days where such activities conflict with their religious observances.

Procedures

3. When the requested accommodation concerns a final examination, students are responsible for advising their faculty office as soon as possible and not later than the deadline for reporting conflicts. Additional documentation confirming their religious affiliation may be requested. Possible solutions include (in

regime, the rest of Canada will no longer deliver on its half of the bargain.

While some top students from out-of-province will surely accept offers from McGill's New National Programme and lock-in for four years, the majority of out-of-province students aren't so brave and will not come. Like their counterparts in Quebec, out-of-province students are highly sought after by other law schools (note : both B.C.L. and LL.B. applicant pools are the best in their jurisdictions) Under the current system, the *option* of completing a Civil Law degree is what dis-

sided institution — the Best of Quebec for Civilians meets Last-Chance-U for Commoners ; the latter produces a National Programme of an entirely different description.

Neither is necessary. There is an intermediate position between the Old and New that balances the need for reform with the necessity of an optional regime. We can have change without eliminating choice. This decision is the most important in the recent history of McGill. Let's hope that Faculty Council makes the right one

The Insightful Gift

The gift of song is the bellowing of many a golden note
The gift of advice is a force that can quietly guide life's boat
Wisdom, a gift from Divinity's hand
Knowledge, translated into the ability to really understand
Fearlessness, the gift of accepting one's mortality
Love, the gift of appreciating all of humanity
Peace, the stabilizing energy that soothes the soul
Calm, the gift that leaves you in control
Caution, the gift that steers you away from folly
Joy, the gift bestowed on all who are truly jolly
Charisma, the gift of being able to gently sway
Your supporters as well as your opponents to respect your way
Yet one of the greatest gifts, one of the purest inspirational fire
Is the humbly rewarding gift of being able to inspire
A young mind to earnestly inquire
And seek out the nature of what lays behind life's intricate barb wire
Never accepting it blindly but always climbing higher
With a genuine desire
To seek truth out and never tire
Of the pursuit for the quiet light...
The one called insight.

SOULETTE GRAY

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to take a course of studies in France", the testator deeming "it of great importance that the English-speaking members of the legal profession should be proficient in the French language", the value of the scholarship is approximately \$24,000. The scholar selected is required to pursue a program of studies in a French university that has received the approval of the Faculty. The award is made to a member of the graduating class or of a recent class who has achieved a distinguished academic record in the Faculty. Preference will be shown to candidates preparing for the legal profession or for a university career in law in Canada and who would be unable to spend a year in France without such financial help. Applications for this scholarship should be made through the Undergraduate Students Office.

The Faculty offers a number of DISCRETIONARY PRIZES, awarded each year to Law students selected by the Prizes & Scholarships Committee and Faculty Council. You may nominate a fellow student, *or yourself*, for such recognition. Nomination forms are available from the OUS. **Deadline for submission: 1st April 1997.**

It is expected that EXAMINATIONS for some Jewish students will be affected by PASSOVER observances. The following is extracted from the *University Handbook of Student Rights and Responsibilities, Policy for the Accommodation of Religious Holy Days.*

order of preference):

- a) treating the request as a conflict, and accommodating it within the examination period, or
- b) providing a special deferred examination as soon as possible, or
- c) granting permission to write a regular deferred examination.

The choice will depend on the particular circumstances.

If you are a Jewish student requiring an accommodation, you are advised to submit complete details to Christine Gervais, OUS, **before 1st April**, so that arrangements can be made.

Students who write their EXAMINATIONS at the OFFICE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES are reminded to contact that office by 1st April to complete the necessary paperwork.

April 1997 EXAMINATION INFORMATION is posted on board No. 3. You are encouraged to check this board regularly for updates to examination information.

If you have not yet picked up your TERM II EXAMINATION NUMBER, come to the OUS for it between 09:00-16:00h daily.

Attention ALL FIRST YEAR STUDENTS. Upon successful completion of your first year of study, you will be admitted *automatically* to the National Programme. If you wish to opt out of the National Programme, come to the OUS and fill out the necessary form.

Term I COURSE EVALUATION results are on reserve in the Library.

**Dernière date de tombée:
Vendredi 28 mars ~ 12h00**

Committee's primary focus was on improvement of the teaching of the two-degree programme over four years. The objective is to make the teaching of both civil and common law, and public and private law, as interesting, coherent and challenging as possible over a four-year period. Discussion of the nature of the four-year teaching programme led directly to consideration of admissions policy and the single-degree options.

iii) **Efficiency.** Curriculum reform should not be driven by economic considerations. The Committee did not consider that the present financial situation of the Faculty justified the taking of any measures on purely financial grounds. Nevertheless, both the Future Report (at 1) and the Curriculum Review Report (at 1) emphasized the need for "careful assessment" of the use of Faculty resources.

Since the inception of the National Programme, the Faculty has conducted major reviews of the curriculum in the 1970s and again in the 1980's, when the "fourth year" was integrated in the present manner through creation of the "cross-over" courses.

These reform objectives suggest that the Faculty now wishes once again to consider major reforms to its curriculum and programme. It is with this in mind that the Committee makes the following proposals.

Main reform proposal

The essential reform proposed by this report is the re-conceptualization of our teaching as a single, unified programme, within which the civil and common law would continue to exist in a sustained and

to greater individual choice of programme. At the present time the core curriculum is characterized by radical separation of civil and common law teaching, the only concession to existing knowledge on the part of students being the so-called "cross-over" courses, which vary considerably in their integration of civil and common law material. The present situation is unsatisfactory in a number of ways. Students in the second year complain of repetition and boredom (doing a first-year twice); the number of courses means that they cannot be adequately staffed by full-time faculty members (leaving some first-year students with no resident, accessible professor in a given course); and the large number of full-time faculty teaching in these courses means fewer teaching resources for upper-year, complementary (semi-obligatory) courses, which are often closed to large numbers of students in spite of their semi-obligatory character.

In the view of the Committee the present teaching of the core curriculum has become regressive, no longer corresponding to the dynamic between civil and common laws in Canada, Europe and the world and no longer reflecting the (healthy) tension between private and public law. The new dynamic between the civil and common laws is particularly evident in the area of Obligations, Contracts and Torts, which appears as the most fruitful field in which first commonality and then distinctiveness between the civil and common laws can be effectively taught in a coherent manner. In the view of the Committee, a more integrated teaching of

tory course. The Committee considered that proposals for formal division of the course, or its placing in second year, were premature.

iii) Creation of a second-term, first-year elective, to be chosen from a basket of courses including, for the present, Family Law (to be taught as an integrated, civil law-common law course, with a substantial public law dimension) and Public International Law.

iv) Removal of Criminal Law to the second year, increasing its credit weight to 4 credits and adding to it an oral advocacy element (one credit for an oral presentation, in moot form, based on a prepared factum). Second year mooting, as presently constituted, would therefore be eliminated.

iv) Concentration of Legal Research and Writing as a three-credit course in first-term, first year, as a series of practical exercises in the field of Obligations, as a complement to the new first year course in Obligations.

The first year curriculum would thus be as follows:

• Foundations (Term One)	2
• Foundations (Term Two)	2
• Public Law (Term One)	3
• Public Law (Term Two)	3
• Obligations I (Term One)	4
• Obligations I (Term Two)	4
• Property (Term One)	3
• Property (Term Two)	3
• Legal Research	3
• Elective	3

In the second year, students would return to the study of Obligations/Contract/Tort and Property in a manner designed

course from each of four groups or baskets of courses, each of which represents an important element of the two-degree programme. The total number of complementary or semi-obligatory credits would be from 10 to 13, as opposed to 15 under present regulations.

The four groups or baskets of courses are as follows:

i) **Public Law and Social Diversity.** This group of courses would emphasize the public law heritage of the Faculty and its commitment to human rights and equity. The courses would include: Aboriginal Peoples and the Law, Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Comparative and International Protection of Minorities' Rights, Discrimination and the Law, Feminist Legal Theory, International Development Law, International Law of Human Rights, Law and Poverty, Social Diversity and Law, Civil Liberties, and Public International Law (if not taken in first year).

ii) **Comparative Private Law.** These courses integrate civil and common law teaching from a number of existing courses.

- Evidence and the Courts, 3 credits. This course would combine all teaching of evidence in the three existing courses of Evidence, Common Law Evidence and Judicial Law and Evidence, which would be eliminated. The tradition-specific characteristics of the law of evidence are no longer considered to justify separate courses.
- Secured Transactions, 4 credits. This course would deal with security on property, combining the course Law of Real

vital equilibrium. All students would therefore follow essentially the same sequence of courses and there would be no identifiable, formal, common law or civil law "streams" as we now know them. In particular, an effort has been made to accentuate, on a reasoned basis, the commonality and specificity of the civil and common laws where most appropriate. This has been achieved largely through the re-orientation of the teaching of Obligations/Contracts/Torts and Property in the first and second years and through a reconfiguration of complementary (semi-obligatory) offerings in later years. This proposal is thought to be consistent with two over-all objectives of the Faculty, i.e., development of the most intellectually challenging, non-repetitive means of teaching both the civil and common law, while at the same time ensuring the continuing vitality and identity of each.

The remainder of this report outlines the detailed recommendations of the Committee, as they relate to the core curriculum, complementary (semi-obligatory) courses, upper-year options, admissions policy, single-degree options, and programme name. It is proposed that implementation of the recommendations begin in September, 1998, for the first year courses, with the remaining recommendations taking effect in September, 1999. This will allow one to two years for the necessary preparatory work on the structure and pedagogical method of new courses.

The core curriculum

The expression "core curriculum" is used by the Committee to refer to the basic, obligatory teaching in both civil and common law and public law in the first two years of a four-year, double-degree programme. This teaching should provide a basic, foundational introduction to both private and public law, allowing progression in the upper years to an expansion in both knowledge and perspectives and

Obligations, Contracts and Torts is consistent with a sustained equilibrium between the two traditions, and the recommendation of the Committee is to integrate the teaching of this subject into a single, first year course, with more advanced, tradition-specific courses in "Advanced Obligations" in the second year.

The law of property has, however, evolved on a different basis and is, in the Committee's view, more appropriately taught as an illustration of distinctive or systemic development. The Committee's recommendation is that this subject should continue to be taught in its present form as the locus for students' encounter with the specific character of a single tradition in the first years (with increased attention being given to the "cross-over" nature of the course and the teaching already given in the first-year course). Students would be divided into either Civil Law Property or Common Law Property in first year by alphabetical order, with choice allowed for English or French language sections.

Decanal support will be required for Faculty collaboration, preparation of new teaching materials, and pedagogical initiatives in both Obligations and Property.

Recommendations for other first-year subjects include:

i) Extension of Foundations to a full year course (2 credits each term) to allow further time for reflexion and to allow for development of small-group discussions and written assignments. This would allow time for orderly progression from historical legal material in the first term (new to students) to more theoretical debate in the second term when more legal material has been assimilated.

ii) Re-naming Constitutional Law as "Public Law: Constitution-

al Law and the Administrative Process." The change is meant to indicate the range of subjects which should be covered by all sections in a six-credit, introduc-

to complement the first-year experience. The tradition-specific character of "Common Law Obligations" and "Civil Law Obligations" would be taught in advanced courses to all students. For Property, students would "cross over" to the tradition they did not study in the first year.

The remaining core curriculum courses of the second year could be offered in the first or second term and would therefore be the following:

- Advanced Common Law Obligations (particular topics) 2
- Advanced Civil Law Obligations (particular topics) 2
- Advanced Property (cross-over to other tradition) 4
- Criminal Law and Advocacy 4

This programme will reduce the obligatory portion of the two-degree programme from 43 credits to 39 in the first two years, while introducing student choice at an earlier stage of the programme. It also allows re-deployment of professors to other areas of the curriculum, notably to complementary (semi-obligatory) courses presently under-staffed, and should allow all first-year courses to be taught by full-time faculty members.

Complementary (semi-obligatory) courses

The Committee recommends retention of complementary or semi-obligatory courses, by way of directing student choice towards further, important elements of each of the two degrees. As in the core curriculum, however, the Committee feels there is room for integration and elimination of duplication in the teaching of complementary courses. At the same time, student choice can be directed to important elements of the curriculum which are not presently represented in our list of complementary courses. The basic recommendation is to require all students to take at least one

Security with the security law component of Commercial Transactions, both of which would be eliminated.

• Sale, 3 credits. This course would deal with the remaining material (on sale) from Commercial Transactions plus the sale material from Special Contracts I.

• Labour Law, 3 credits. The course would be taught as a comparative, inter-jurisdictional course.

• Consumer Law (the existing course).

• Family Law (if not taken in first year). This is the integrated, civil law-common law course available as part of the first year elective group.

This group of courses is not meant to be closed or exclusive and professors teaching advanced civil or common law courses are invited to consider creation of integrated courses.

iii) Advanced Civil Law. The group of courses would include: Special Contracts I, Special Contracts II (both to be restructured to reflect absence of sale); Administration of the Property of Another, Financing Movable and Immovable Transactions, Successions, Matrimonial Property Law, Law of Persons. An effort would be made to coordinate these offerings so that substantive matters — the trust is one example — would not be repeated.

iv) Advanced Common Law. The group of courses would include: Remedies, Restitution, Real Estate Transactions, Equity and Trusts, Wills and Estates.

Given enhanced student choice with respect to these complementary courses, the existing problems of student access may be lessened. The Committee recommends to the Dean, however, that priority be given in staffing and sectioning of these courses, such that all are open to students on a regular, annual basis.

Upper-year options

The four year programme should allow for increased student choice and some measure of concentration of study, if desired. The recommendations of the Committee allow for increased choice and concentration by reducing the total number of obligatory and complementary credits for the four-year programme from 65 to 56. To reflect the increased opportunity for individualized programmes, which is the value-added dimension of a four-year programme, the Faculty literature should place new emphasis on the wide-range of existing credit options within the Faculty, such as clerkships, legal clinic, advanced mootng, tutorial leadership, law journal activity and legal writing (note project) and exchanges. To allow those students who are interested in extensive research in a field of interest, the Committee also recommends creation of an optional, 4th year Senior Essay (6 credits), in addition to the single Term Essay (3 credits) which students may now undertake. Fourth-year students would be thereby more assimilated to graduate students and given more freedom to engage in their own research in a chosen field. The burden of supervision would be alleviated, however, by the optional character of the Essay.

Admissions policy

Creation of a single, unified programme has evident implications for the admissions policy of the Faculty. A single admissions pool would be consistent with the idea of a single programme. The Committee recommends the creation of a single admissions pool, while main-

as the Faculty may consider necessary.

ii) Legal Research and Methodology. The Committee could not undertake the substantial revision of this course which is called for by its recommendation for a three-credit, single term programme focussed on the new Obligations course. The creation of the new course should obviously be done in close collaboration with those who will be creating and teaching the new Obligations course.

iii) Credit-weighting. The Committee did not feel that creation of uniform weighting policy had been given priority by the Faculty over the other recommendations of this report, and makes no present recommendation.

iv) Language. The Committee recommends review and application of the existing language policy of the Faculty but does not make further recommendations at this time.

v) Ethics, civil procedure and alternative dispute resolution. The Committee noted that a range of courses are now being offered in these areas. Their coherence and coverage could be the object of further deliberation, as well as the idea of ethics practicums to be attached to individual courses.

vi) Pedagogical innovation. This topic overlaps with that of library development and the use of computer-assisted education, and the Committee recommends that it be the object of ongoing, concentrated attention.

vii) Legal clinic and public service. This entire range of teaching and practice should be the object of review.

Appendix:

credit course in Advanced Civil Law Obligations be created and required of all students.

- 10. That an obligatory, second-year, 2-credit course in Advanced Common Law Obligations be created and required of all students.

- 11. That all students be required to take one course from the following list of courses: Aboriginal Peoples and the Law, Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Comparative and International Protection of Minorities' Rights, Discrimination and the Law, Feminist Legal Theory, International Development Law, International Law of Human Rights, Law and Poverty, Social Diversity and Law, Civil Liberties, and Public International Law. This group of course to be identified as the "Public Law and Social Diversity" group of courses.

- 12. That a new 3-credit course be created entitled Evidence and the Courts, to deal with the law of evidence in both civil and common law, and that the courses Evidence, Common Law Evidence and Judicial Law and Evidence be abolished.

- 13. That a new 4-credit course be created entitled Secured Transactions to deal with security interests in property in civil and common law and that the courses Law and Real Security and Commercial Transactions be abolished.

- 14. That a new 3-credit course be created entitled Sale, to deal with the law of sale in both civil and common law.

- 15. That all students be required to take one course from a group of courses entitled Comparative Private Law, the

Hommage à Baudelaire

*Quand le ciel bas lourd pèse comme un couvercle
Et qu'ensevelie sous un tas d'entrevues
Toutes aussi plates, toutes de déjà-vu
Vous vous voyez dans la glace, la face toute verte*

*Vous pensez à cet essai que vous n'écrivez pas
Vous pleurez en pensant à Family Law
Le pire cours jamais offert dans cette Faculté
Et il a fallu que vous en soyez*

*Vous vous rappelez que c'était Kasirer
Qui à l'origine devait le donner
Et puis vous chiâlez, pensant à vos misères
Et vous avez hâte à la fin de vous en aller.*

*Vous pensez à votre rhume qui reste
Et qui vous suit depuis des mois comme une peste
Vous pensez à ces amis que vous n'appellez plus
Mais c'est trop tard, car déjà vous n'en avez plus*

*Ils ont décidé, très justement, de vous oublier
Et c'est bien fait car franchement votre visage
Trahit la fatigue et, ô quel mauvais présage!
Le frigo est vide et vous êtes affamée.*

*Mais de toute façon, toute la vaisselle est sale
Et dehors, il pleut, il neige, il grisaille
Il fait froid et vous auriez besoin d'un bon bain
Mais comme toujours vous remettez tout à demain.*

*Alors seulement vous pensez à autre chose
Aux examens en fait, qui arrivent à grands pas
Et vous vous demandez: pourquoi n'étudie-je pas?
Votre voix reste sans réponse. La nuit est close.*

*Enfin, vous vous retournez sur votre futon décrépit
En écoutant Virginie
Et sa bande d'épais finis.
Et le ciel vous écrase comme un vieux ravioli.*

*Puis vous décidez d'écrire des stupidités
Dans le Quid, pour vous amuser
Même si ça déplaît aux bien-pensants
Même si ça dérange les bonnes gens*

taining present rules concerning requirements for application. It would be the responsibility of the admissions committee to ensure fairness and geographical equilibrium in the admissions process. The existence of a unified admissions policy would establish a single though diverse group of students with a shared, common objective.

Three-year options

After considerable debate, particularly with respect to issues of mature students (increased financial burden), student choice and the danger of an increase in three-year LL.B.'s (flowing from a common admissions pool and a common programme), the Committee recommends an exclusive, four-year, two-degree programme, with no opting-out for either a single, civil law degree or a single, common law degree. This single programme will be simple to administer and will represent a clear statement of the objectives of legal education at McGill.

Programme name

The Committee recommends that the single programme of the Faculty be re-named the "McGill Programme" and that accompanying literature reflect its multi-traditional, integrated character. The programme would, in the language of the Curriculum Review Report (at 3) be "a window through which Quebec, Canada and the world view each other."

Further reflection

The Committee recommends that the following be the subject of further reflection include:

i) General Policy on Equity. McGill University is now drafting a general policy on equity within the University and the Committee recommends eventual adherence to this general policy, supplemented

Motions for Presentation

- 1. That the courses Obligations I, IA, II and IIA; Contracts I and IA; and Torts I and IA be abolished and replaced by a single, first-year, two-term, 8-credit course entitled Obligations, which would deal with private law obligations in both civil and common law.
- 2. That the course Foundations of Canadian Law be extended to a full-year, 4 credit course.
- 3. That the course Constitutional Law be re-named Public Law: Constitutional Law and the Administrative Process.
- 4. That an elective course be included in the second-term of the first year of all students, to be chosen from a group of courses including, for the present, Family Law and Public International Law.
- 5. That the courses Family Law I and Family Law IA be abolished and replaced by a single course Family Law, which would deal with both civil and common law.
- 6. That the course Criminal Law be removed from first year, be re-named Criminal Law and Advocacy (so as to include an oral advocacy exercise) and be given 4 credits.
- 7. That the Legal Research, Writing and Mooting course of the second year be abolished.
- 8. That the first-year course Legal Research and Writing be given three credits, be concentrated in the first-term of the first year, and be centered on the private law of obligations.
- 9. That an obligatory, second-year, 2-

courses in this group including: Evidence and the Courts, Secured Transactions, Sale, Labour Law, Consumer Law and Family Law.

- 16. That the creation of further courses in comparative private law be encouraged, at the initiative of individual professors, for inclusion in the group Comparative Private Law.
- 17. That all students be required to take one course from a group of courses entitled Advanced Civil Law, the group of courses including : Special Contracts I, Special Contracts II, Administration of the Property of Another, Financing Movable and Immovable Transactions, Successions, Matrimonial Property Law, and Law of Persons.
- 18. That all students be required to take one course from a group of courses entitled Advanced Common Law, the group of courses including: Remedies, Restitution, Real Estate Transactions, Equity and Trusts and Wills and Estates.
- 19. That all students be given the option, in their fourth year, to write a Senior Essay of 6 credits.
- 20. That a single admissions pool be created for all entrants to the Faculty of Law, with no distinction made between civil-law entrants and common-law entrants, while ensuring fairness and appropriate geographic representation in the process.
- 21. That all students, beginning with those entering into the Faculty in September, 1998, be awarded, and only be awarded, the two degrees of B.C.L. and LL.B.
- 22. That the name of the programme for the study of law at the Faculty of Law of McGill University be renamed the "McGill Programme."

Qui n'aiment pas ce que vous écrivez
Et vous vous dites: je vous emmerde!
Au moins moi, je prends mon pied
Pendant que sur vous, le ciel pèse comme sur un
chaudron de merde.

Na.

VÉRONIQUE-ÉLISABETH MARQUIS

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In an otherwise interesting article on the Israeli legal community's use of Canadian constitutional law, it was quite offensive that Hillel Neuer took this opportunity to pull at our heartstrings in an unjustified attempt to evoke sympathy for Israel. A military accident may be unfortunate for the country involved, and tragic for those who lose loved ones, but I fail to see why Canadians should be asked to sympathise for a country whose military actions rank it amongst the worst human rights abusers in the annals of Amnesty International.

Furthermore, a military exists to kill people and thereby runs the risk of suffering casualties itself: that is the kind of business that it is in. Neuer mentions that the helicopters were on their way to defend the embattled northern border, as if it were so innocent as that. The truth is that these helicopters were on their way to indiscriminately bomb the civilian areas of southern Lebanon, in brazen violation of Lebanon's sovereignty, and utter disregard for the lives of the Lebanese who, in the eyes of the Israeli military, are mere Arabs with lives that are worth somehow less than that of the ordinary human being. Let's not forget that it is this military which bombed the UN refugee bunker in Qana, knowing full well who was inside.

Suite en page 5

En direct de Berlin

BERNARD

BCL III

DUHAIME

« Cher(e)s ami(e)s, me voilà à Berlin, où je fais un stage depuis le mois de janvier. Je me plais beaucoup dans cette ville magnifique, originale, jeune et dynamique. Je travaille dans un cabinet d'avocats spécialisés dans les brevets et les marques de commerce. J'apprends énormément, tant au niveau du droit que de la langue: c'est vraiment motivant. J'ai pu aller en Cour écouter mon patron plaider. C'est très différent de chez nous.

I made lots of friends, in the firm and in the faculty of law of Potsdam University. People are very nice and open. I went to Leipzig with a couple of fellow students for the national assembly of the European law student association, we had a great time. Plusieurs amis sont de l'ex-RDA et me racontent un pays qui m'était tout à fait inconnu. L'Allemagne maintenant réunifiée restera longtemps marquée par le mur.

Je m'acclimate plutôt bien au night-life berlinois. Les cafés et bars sont charmants. Il y en a à chaque coin de rue, ou presque. On y retrouve une population tout à fait originale: étudiants, artistes, punks: name it, we've got it.

La ville est en perpétuelle reconstruction, ce qui lui donne un esprit particulier. Certains quartiers

Six Years of Intensity

STEVEN

BCL III

LEITMAN

It was early fall, 1991. I was at the gym to register for my undergrad classes. It was a total sweatbox. After what seemed like forever, I had all my courses and my ID card. My friend Stuart and I were walking down the main hallway on our way out and another friend, Brian Burke, was passing by. Brian had heard about the intra-mural leagues and he wanted to put a softball team together. Stu and I were in.

At that moment we did not know what was about to begin. What we thought was a mere four game season (plus playoffs) was to become something much larger. Brian and I are the only ones who have played every Intensity season - six in softball, four in ball hockey, and three in ice hockey. For us it has spanned all our McGill lives, a constant. For others it was

a fleeting moment, one short season. Our teams have encompassed virtually every faculty at McGill. For everyone, it was about one thing - having a good time. The games gave us time to unwind, to forget about school, our troubles and anything else that was going on. Our existence was momentarily reduced to hitting a ball and chasing a puck, but we were also fulfilling our dreams right then.

Expectations were low as Intensity assembled on Molson Stadium for its first softball game. We had heard how good the league was and we were prepared to go down in defeat in all our games. We destroyed our first opponent. Our team survived until the semi-finals. The first season was a success, but not just because of our showing.

The second softball year we fell early in the playoffs. The third year saw us in

the finals, where the Li'l Leaguers trashed us. They beat us again the next year in the finals, but only by two runs. Year five saw the torch pass - another team killed us in the finals. So many times we were so close, yet it seemed at that moment that we had reached our limit.

This past fall Brian registered Intensity for its last softball season. We had no real expectations. The team was solid, but less talented than in many of the previous years. We had heart, and a good attitude. Everyone wanted to have a good time, and we did. Yet again, Intensity made it to the finals, for the fourth straight year. This time we were not to be denied, and we smoked our opponent to cap off an undefeated season. For a brief moment Brian and I were locked in an embrace somewhere between shortstop and second base, where we had stood side by side for years.

Our hockey seasons were more modest. In a way they embodied more about the team than did our victory. On March the ninth, 1997, Intensity played its final game. This time I was on defence, and Brian was the goalie. We lost five to two. The end was fitting. Our whole squad was playing its heart out, unable to tie the score. As time ran down our only player without the team's spirit dove for the puck. It was an unnecessary effort at the time. The game was winding down already, we had no real chance. Nonetheless, he dove. It seems that Intensity had captured another soul.

That loss turned Intensity into history. All but one team in each league must suffer the same fate. Just one team wins it all

Atteignez
les sommets
de la profession
en 36,5 secondes.

sont ultra-modernes, d'autres semblent encore victimes de la guerre. Il y a une certaine fébrilité dans l'air, on sent bien que Berlin redeviendra une grande ville.

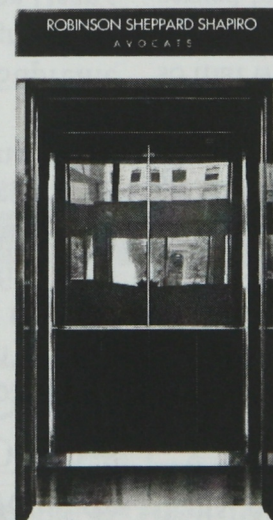
I am leaving at the end of March for Groningen (The Netherlands), where I'll take part in our faculty's exchange program. I look forward to it.

Ce séjour m'apporte beaucoup, tant sur le plan académique que personnel. C'est toujours formidable de pouvoir rester longtemps dans une ville, d'y rencontrer des gens cools, de se fondre dans le décor et de vivre autrement pour quelques mois: ça fait réfléchir, ce qui n'est pas mauvais une fois de temps en temps! It is still possible to contact me by email at the usual LSA address (thanks to Doron); I hope to hear from you. Good luck with the papers and exams: réjouissez-vous, c'est presque fini (moi je débute mon semestre dans deux semaines...). Bis bald!
-Bernard.

Suite de "Letter to the Editor"

Finally, as far as "a nation cries for its dead, and seeks the strength to continue in the path for peace" is concerned, Neuer would do well to spare us the lyrical melodrama. Other nations in the immediate vicinity are also crying for their dead, but none has the privilege of its story being told uncontested in a law-student newspaper, nor, presumably, do any of them rank in the category of human beings equal in worth to Israelis.

Sincerely,
Azim Hussain, BCL I



in just one game. We had that honour last fall, and we'll never forget it. Even still, that one moment of glory will always be overshadowed by what made it feel so great - being just one of the other teams having a blast. Those are the moments to seize.

Brian is wrapping up his years at McGill. I have a year left here, and 1997-98 will be my first year at McGill without Intensity. Brian will not be standing at shortstop beside me this September. I'll still play in the intra-murals, and I'll still have a blast. But an era has ended. These past six years have taken me from adolescence to adulthood, yet I have always found the time to feel like a kid. I will always find the time.

Entente de recrutement

STÉPHANIE

BCL III

JOHNSON

Information: l'entente de recrutement prévoit qu'aucune offre ne doit être formulée avant le 7 avril, directement ou indirectement.

Problem: some law firms who have signed the agreement may nevertheless try to find out what your response would be IF they offered you a job.

Suggestions: (1) une réponse possible est de leur dire, gentiment et poliment, que SI une telle proposition vous est faite, vous seriez tout simplement déçu(e) de voir qu'un cabinet que vous admirez tant serait prêt à compromettre l'engagement solennel qu'il a pris; (2) répondez comme vous l'entendez; (3) MAIS sachez qu'un avocat a été désigné pour faire appliquer l'entente pour Montréal, et que pour la sauvegarde de l'entente dans les années à venir, il serait important que vous rapportiez l'incident en venant me voir.

Good luck, your VP Civil.

Get real!

KATIA

NAT IV

OPALKA

On Monday, March 10th, at 7:05 a.m., about thirty of us left the Faculty in a yellow school bus headed for the Supreme Court. We were going to attend the pleadings in R.(D.S.), the case involving Nova Scotia Youth Court judge Corinne Sparks and certain comments she made at the end of a trial in 1993. Was there a reasonable apprehension of bias?

Some of the students on the bus had written factums on the case, others had attended the Annie Macdonald Langstaff workshop which featured Richard Devlin's article on the case (*We can't go on with suspicious minds*), while some folks were simply along for the ride. We arrived at the Court with at least five seconds to spare, and were ushered into the Registrar's conference room to watch the proceedings on closed caption television (arrangements compliments of Professor Alison Harvison Young, who sat on the floor beside me. We stared up at the t.v. set from underneath the boardroom table!).

We were lucky. The proceedings began at quarter to ten and ended at one, with a ten minute break, so we actually saw all the pleadings. Furthermore, every single member of the Court asked questions or made comments, so we got to see them in action(!). Every single person on the

BCL I

ROBERT

DONATO

Bora Laskin's Bust. Pea-Shooting Parliamentarians. Restaurants That Close Before 4:00 P.M. Where's the only place in the world that one can find such exotic rarities? If you were one of the many McGill students who descended upon our nation's capital on Monday, you know the answer.

The Faculty's trip to the Supreme Court of Canada was largely a great success. Graciously sponsored by the Dean's Office, such that the bus ride cost a mere \$10, the experience was both affordable and educational.

We arrived at the Supreme Court at about 9:00 A.M. Upon entering the building, we were quickly informed that the Courtroom was unfortunately full, largely packed with University of Ottawa stu-

dents. Apparently, Ottawa students decided to pick the very same day to visit the Court, and took advantage of their strategic location a short distance away to arrive before us.

But this turn of events could not dampen the Mighty McGill Students' mood! Professor Harvison Young used her formidable connections with the head of security, and we were escorted into a maximum security area of the building, so that we could watch the pleading of R. v. R.D.S. on a special television screen reserved for security. This had its own advantages, since we were actually able to see the faces of the pleaders (and judges). An unfortunate byproduct of this was also being forced to witness the sweat of the appellant pleaders, a result of the Chief Justice's aggressive questioning.

Prof. Harvison Young took on the role of Telecaster, naming each judge as he or

she spoke. Spectators were somewhat surprised by the relative silence of Justice L'Heureux-Dubé, while Chief Justice Lamer vigorously attacked the appellants. McGill students seemed pleased when Ottawa students reacted with laughter to one of Justice L'Heureux-Dubé's remarks, and the Chief Justice chastised them, saying "This is no laughing matter!"

After the case, we were led on a tour of the building. Some students were escorted through top-security areas, including the Chambers of the Hon. Justice Iacobucci, where we had a brief conversation with His Lordship. His Lordship was gracious enough to dig up some beautiful souvenir booklets of the Supreme Court, and gave us each a copy. Included in these booklets are profiles of each of the Justices, complete with a color photo of each (no autographs, though...) The booklets contain great trivia, such as the fact that Justice Cory was a Bomber Pilot during World War II, and that Justice LaForest has 5 daughters. (Make what you will of such trivia...)

We also encountered Mr. Justice LaForest and Madam Justice L'Heureux-Dubé ("The Great Dissenter") in the hallways of the building. In fact, I was honored by a wave from each of the Justices (gasp!). Other points of interest for law students were the busts of Chief Justices Laskin and Dickson, a photograph of the great Justice Beetz, the Supreme Court Law Library, and the statues of Truth ("Veritas") and Justice ("Ivstitia") that Professor Sklar analyzed so extensively in the "Evidence" course.

After this, the group split up, and



court has an incredibly distinctive look (sort of like Vincent Price!), and they all looked extremely distinguished/overworked.

The most sprightly looking judge, Chief Justice Antonio Lamer, was also the most "active". He made several comments which made those of Judge Sparks (she had said something like "police officers have been known to overreact in inter-racial situations; it looks like this young police officer overreacted) seem like nothing special (certainly not something you would go to the Supreme Court about). In fact, that is precisely what the appellants were arguing: that Judge Sparks hadn't done or said anything wrong or untrue or inappropriate.

I am very glad I went to Ottawa, and I encourage everyone to sign up if something similar is organized next year. As for the Sparks case, I think it gave us an opportunity to see how difficult it is for the law (and the judges who make it) to incorporate "reality" into the way the legal system operates, even though they know that the inflexibility of the system, and its built-in, time worn pro-white institutional bias is embarrassing and, let's face it, unconstitutional.

Many thanks are owed to the Dean's Office for its generous support of this event.

36,5 secondes et 47 étages,
voilà tout ce dont vous
avez besoin pour démarrer
votre carrière.

Chez Robinson Sheppard Shapiro,
nous ne faisons pas que
vous offrir une ascension rapide,
nous vous offrons également
des avantages uniques :
responsabilités accrues, autonomie
et atmosphère de travail conviviale.

Mais notre ascenseur,
aussi rapide soit-il,
ne peut accueillir que trois
ou quatre passagers à la fois.

Voilà pourquoi
nous sommes si sélectifs.
Alors si vous désirez atteindre
les plus hauts sommets pour y demeurer,
qu'attendez-vous pour monter ?

Pour venir nous rejoindre, contactez

Me Jacques Bouchard Jr

ROBINSON SHEPPARD SHAPIRO

A V O C A T S

800 Place Victoria, 47^e étage, Tour de la Bourse,
Montréal, Québec H4Z 1H6

many of us went to see the workings of our great Dominion Parliament during Question Period. The contrast between the judicial and legislative branch of government was striking. Onlookers were witness to the standard high-level debate in the House:

Hon. Paul Martin: "Mr. Speaker, this government has created more jobs than... <enter your favorite fictional character: Santa Claus, Easter Bunny, Big Bird...>

Hon. Gilles Duceppe: "M. le Président, j'objecte à ces accusations de racisme!"

Speaker of the House: "Order, please! Order!"

Finally, we consumed a late lunch at a food court. Fortunately, we managed to eat before the restaurants closed at 4:00 P.M. in typical Ottawa fashion. And then we were back on the road to La Belle Province.

All concerned would like to thank Dean Toope for sponsoring the trip, and Prof. Harvison Young for organizing it. Hopefully, future trips of this kind will be planned.

TOPTEN SPECIAL!

Pour le prochain numéro: Send us YOUR topten, whatever the subject. It's the end of the Quid year, so say what you've been meaning to say all year; moquez-vous du ventilateur du 102 ou soyez originaux à L'extrême, mais envoyez-nous votre propre Topten pour le 28 mars à midi!

Lis pas ça

VÉRONIQUE-ELISABETH

BCL III

MARQUIS

Ceux que j'écoeure depuis des années avec mes trivialités seront heureux d'apprendre que mon année officielle au Quid tire à sa fin. Plus qu'un seul numéro après celui-ci et je vous quitte vers les vieux pays. Mais je reviendrai vous hanter avec des e-mails qui ne vous divertiront pas davantage que ce que j'écris présentement. Toutefois, avant de partir, il y a encore tant de choses que j'ai envie de vous dire! Sur la vie en général, sur cette faculté qui me souffre et me fait souffrir. Et sur les nouveaux autobus de la STCUM, que je déteste intensément. Ils sont trop bas, ils sont trop étroits, il sont peu ergonomiques. La STCUM s'en va vraiment à l'abandon, pas vrai? Saviez-vous que désormais, les escaliers roulants fonctionnent au ralenti en dehors des heures de pointe? Ça c'est de la belle économie. Et il y a des pannes un lundi sur trois dans le métro. Vivement Edimbourg, et marcher pour aller à l'école.

Mais j'avais décidé de vous parler de la faculté. L'an dernier - peu d'entre vous vous en souviendrez - j'avais remarqué en ces pages que le lounge dans les toilettes des femmes du Pit était une perte d'espace assez phénoménale. Récemment, et dans un acte de dissidence hautement illégal, mais heureusement à une heure de faible affluence, j'ai visité l'homologue masculin de notre salle de toilettes si mal conçue. Quel choc! Si j'ai bien compté, il y a quelque chose comme 15 endroits pour satisfaire un besoin de base. QUINZE.

Parcours d'une étudiante de la faculté

GUYLÈNE

BCL III

LECLAIR

Contrairement à mes chroniques précédentes, le caractère de mon article cette semaine sera plus personnel. Bien que je n'aime pas trop parler de moi-même, je tenais tout de même à présenter ma vision des choses ainsi que mon évolution au sein de cette faculté.

PREMIÈRE ANNÉE

Lors de ma première visite au sein de cette faculté, j'ai été très impressionnée par l'allure de ces vieux bâtiments dont les murs massifs reflètent tant d'histoire et de classe. Venant pour mon entrevue, je trouvais majestueux de la réaliser dans le Common Room, dans des fauteuils qui me donnaient une impression de petitesse au sein d'une telle institution. Très fière d'être parmi "les petits du CEGEP" acceptés, j'ai passé mes premières semaines à observer "de quoi avait l'air un étudiant en droit de McGill". Probablement par souci de faire bonne impression, plusieurs d'entre eux décidaient périodiquement de monopoliser le temps des cours pour s'écouter parler et présenter des discours dont bien souvent je ne comprenais même pas la teneur. Terrorisée à l'idée d'intervenir après eux, je préférais ne prendre la parole qu'aux yeux d'un nombre restreint d'étudiants et dans des cours se déroulant dans ma langue maternelle, le français. Moi, d'habitude si bavarde, si ouverte et extravertie, je me retrouvais figée et silencieuse: premier Choc! M'étant également fait dire que les étudiants du CEGEP n'avaient pas leur

DEUXIÈME ANNÉE

Ayant été choisie pour faire un concours de plaidoirie, j'ai tenté, une année durant, de me convaincre que j'avais le potentiel (et définitivement la volonté) de représenter McGill et d'affronter des équipes d'ailleurs, étudiant les mêmes sujets que nous à l'autre bout de la terre. Bien que doutant souvent de ma capacité de le faire, j'ai tenté de faire preuve d'assurance et de conviction face à d'autres dont les fondations semblaient inébranlables. Paradoxe ironique, la même personne qui m'avait fait part de ses réticences quant à l'acceptation des étudiants du CEGEP s'est mise à manifester un intérêt soudain pour moi suite à notre victoire: après avoir fait mes preuves, j'étais maintenant digne de son attention...

TROISIÈME ANNÉE

Étant maintenant bien rodée quant au fonctionnement de cette faculté, affirmant mes opinions sur tous sujets, je suis très surprise d'observer le comportement de mes collègues de classe. Alors que pendant deux années déjà, on nous a appris à critiquer, à nous distancer d'un problème, à affirmer nos opinions... bref, à prendre de l'assurance, il me semble que l'euphorie concernant les entrevues du mois de mars est celle d'un troupeau de petits moutons marchant au même pas que l'on guide dans une direction unique. Ayant tellement entendu de critiques sur la société, de commentaires sur l'importance de la diversité, de la différence... où se trouve-t-elle, cette diversité quand vient le temps d'agir? Je regarde ces étudiants, habillés comme leur parents le seraient,

dans un domaine que je ne choisis pas. Bien sûr, il faut passer par des chemins plus ardues pour parvenir à notre but mais à 20 ans, ai-je vraiment envie de bloquer ma vie, de me fermer toutes les portes en m'engageant plus de 2 ans d'avance et surtout de sacrifier mes soirées et fins de semaine pour être l'esclave d'un supérieur imbu de lui-même? Peut-être vais-je changer d'idée d'ici deux ans mais au moins, je demeure libre d'ici là. Est-ce moi qui me suis trompée sur l'assurance des autres, est-ce moi qui voyait des idées progressistes là où il n'y avait, au fond, qu'un discours s'éteignant, comme un discours de politicien, lorsqu'il s'agit de le mettre en oeuvre?

Je demeure perplexe devant l'attitude de plusieurs qui pratiquent, avec tant de talents -je l'avoue-, l'art du "lichage de derrière", se rabaissant à flatter le "pouvoir" dans le bon sens du poil. (Vive les Coffee House!!) Je suis confuse, ne comprenant pas pourquoi je demeure si sereine avec décision de ne pas poser ma candidature dans un bureau cette année, de ne pas pratiquer dans une voie traditionnelle, d'attendre d'autres occasions pour me plonger "pieds et poings liés".

Voilà. Le compte à rebours s'amorce déjà et l'année s'achève tranquillement. La première session ressemble à un songe lointain (rêve ou cauchemar, à vous de déterminer!), les Law Games ne sont plus qu'un souvenir, Skit Nite est passé et ... les coffee House vont bientôt laisser leur dernière odeur d'alcool dans le Old Chancellor Day Hall.

FIFTEEN. Contre DEUX pour les femmes. Est-ce du sexisme, ou merde? Si l'on additionne les autres toilettes, on arrive toujours à 15 contre 6. Mais les 4 autres ne sont, à ma connaissance, jamais utilisées, pour des raisons principalement de délabrement. Et en ce qui me concerne, de froid (dans les toilettes de l'escalier du Pit).

Au cas où ce problème serait ignoré par la Faculté depuis des années, je me permets de porter à son honorable attention certains faits sur notre toilette principale. Premièrement, je ne pense pas me tromper en parlant d'un manque de papier et de savon chronique. La porte de l'une des deux cabines ne ferme pas. Sans parler du problème de ventilation, qui devient évident après certains coffee house plus houleux. Quand ça pue durant une semaine, est-ce normal?

Alors, je propose que les hommes utilisent ces toilettes l'an prochain. Nous les femmes, nous saurons très bien nous accommoder des 6 cabines. Les urinoirs prendront une année sabbatique. Et il y aura un peu d'équité.

Puisque j'en suis à parler des installations physiques, j'aimerais dire quelques mots sur la porte d'entrée de l'immeuble qui aboutit dans la cafétéria. Est-ce qu'il serait possible d'y installer un portique en rideau de plastique comme ceux que l'on retrouve dans tous les restaurants, pour que l'on puisse arrêter de geler en mangeant l'hiver?

Mais assez parlé d'aménagement. J'ai encore tout plein de choses à vous raconter et je sens le temps me manquer. C'est la semaine des beaux habits, au moment où j'écris ces lignes. Je voulais juste vous dire à tous que faire de la recherche pour un professeur, c'est un travail vraiment intéressant. Ça fait des années que j'essaie de trouver une façon pas plate de vous dire ça, mais c'est impossible.

place en droit car ils ne faisaient que rabaisser la réputation de cette faculté, je me demandais véritablement si mes résultats académiques annonceraient une catastrophe (bien sûr, il s'agit de la vision d'une seule personne mais il a tout de même fallu qu'elle croise ma route!!). Et bien NON! Bien qu'étant quelque peu surprise par le niveau général des notes, je me suis rapidement rendu compte que bien des gens à l'allure si sûre et convaincante ne valaient pas plus que moi.

Un deuxième élément me travaillait aussi: l'importance des Coffee House subventionnés. Ne venant pas d'une famille d'avocats et n'en fréquentant pas vraiment, je ne connaissais littéralement aucune firme d'avocats, ni de nom, ni de réputation. Mes visites occasionnelles du jeudi soir (avec "un pied dedans et un pied dehors") ont servi à rencontrer quelques étudiants d'années supérieures et à me familiariser avec les Grands Noms du milieu juridique.

Alors, tentez l'aventure. Elle en vaut vraiment la peine.

Je voudrais vous dire également que travailler au Quid, c'est super. L'équipe de l'an prochain saura encore mieux, probablement, vous le prouver. Mais je vous incite déjà à penser au futur et à trouver des sujets de chroniques et d'articles l'an prochain. Quand je pense à l'énorme bassin de gens talentueux et brillants qu'il y a dans cette Faculté, je trouve désolant que si peu aient été intéressés à écrire. Et ce qui me désole surtout, c'est que souvent je vous entends dire que vous aimeriez ou auriez aimé le faire, mais ne l'avez pas fait pour (mettre ici une mauvaise raison). Dites-vous que

se donnant une apparence traditionnelle (il faut surtout porter les bonnes couleurs, la bonne longueur de jupe et dire les bonnes choses). Qu'en est-il de l'originalité, de l'individualité? Où sont passés ces beaux discours d'ouverture d'esprit? Ne me regardez pas avec surprise, je ne suis pas inconsciente, immature, je sais ce que je fais et je choisis de ne pas faire comme tout le monde, je choisis de demeurer loin, pour l'instant, de tout cette mascarade.

Et deux ans d'avance! Moi qui demeurerai convaincue d'être la seule à douter de moi. Quand j'ai entendu parler de ceux qui appliquaient dans plus de 30 bureaux, je me suis soudainement sentie réconfortée. Est-ce par incertitude, par peur, par crainte de ne pas plaire ou d'être inadéquats qu'ils présentent une attitude de pitié suppliant n'importe qui de les prendre n'importe où pour faire n'importe quoi! J'ai plus de respect et d'intégrité pour moi-même pour exercer

vous ne serez jamais plus plate que moi (ha! ha!). Et que vous aurez toujours au moins une lectrice: la correctrice.

J'espère qu'un jour le Quid aura sa page de potins, sa page d'annonces Homme cherche Femme/ Femme cherche Homme, et son courrier du coeur. Voilà qui correspondrait mieux aux histoires d'esseulés que j'entends un peu trop souvent dans les corridors, ces derniers temps.

En terminant, et pour ceux qui feront des demandes de stages l'an prochain, j'ai un petit conseil pour vous: ne vous fiez pas trop à l'entente de recrutement. À ce que j'ai pu constater jusqu'ici, bien peu de bureaux la respectent. Ce qui est assez

Déjà! Tout s'est passé si vite et pourtant... Peut-être est-ce la nostalgie envahissante d'un départ imminent qui me mène à ces réflexions et remises en question mais, 3 années se sont déjà écoulées depuis ma première entrée à la fac. de droit et mon séjour ici se termine dans quelques semaines. Wow! Rien n'a véritablement changé et, pourtant, ma vision du monde est si différente. Jamais je n'ai regretté d'être venue dans cette institution, d'y avoir rencontré des gens si extraordinaires, d'y avoir tellement appris. Pour ceux de première année qui se sentent perdus comme je l'ai été, pour ceux qui ne trouvent pas leur place dans cet environnement, pour ceux qui doutent et se sentent si petits ici: Ne vous en faites pas. Chacun peut conserver sa place, ses valeurs, ses principes et apprendre ce qu'il veut apprendre sans devoir se confondre dans la masse, sans devoir s'assimiler. Dans mon cas, le plus grand apprentissage que j'aurai effectué ici est celui de la vie.

ironique, car quoi de plus drôle qu'un cabinet d'avocats qui viole la loi qu'il s'est donnée? Je vous laisse sur ces quelques paroles méditatives.

PS. Il m'a été donné de constater récemment que ce n'est pas tout le monde qui connaît les restaurants Frite Alors!. Je ne sais pas où vous avez vécu ces dernières années, mais les frites de Frite Alors, ce ne sont pas les frites du MacDo. Et ils ont plein de bonnes bières. Courez-y pour manger un tartare de cheval, goûter à leur nouvelle sauce pour frites à l'indonésienne, pour le décor tintinnabulant et pour le personnel cool.

Je vous embrasse, va. Vous avez tous la mine basse... ou beaucoup de mines dans vos crayons.

Tales from the Talesperson

HELENE

BCL III

JUTRAS

Un peu de pub tout d'abord: de la pub pour un magazine qui s'appelle Poils et Compagnie, qui parle d'animaux domestiques et qui s'adresse à toute la famille. C'est une pub tout-à-fait intéressée, parce que ce magazine est le seul en ce moment qui parle de minous et de pitous qui est faite au Québec, et aussi parce que je suis en train de m'y forger une place, et que l'on pourra m'y lire dès le 4e numéro (le deuxième est en kiosque actuellement). Bref, je me plogue. Sans remords, en plus. Parce que plusieurs magazines du genres sont nés et disparus dans les dernières années, et que celui-là, bien évidemment, me tient à coeur.

Changement de sujet... Paraît que notre faculty council parle de rendre obligatoire le programme national. Je ne suis pas la seule à vous en parler ici. En fait, je ne connais pas tous les faits, et je ne veux pas parler à travers mon chapeau. Ce que je sais, c'est que je trouverais vraiment stupide de rendre le programme national, tel qu'il est maintenant, obligatoire. Maintenant, faut pas trop s'énerver, puisque les discussions en cours pourraient, entre autres, mener à un programme national obligatoire, mais de trois ans (je me demande bien comment, mais c'est là une autre question...).

Mon opinion là-dessus est bien personnelle. Je sais que moi, l'été passé, si je n'avais pas pu m'enlever du programme national, je me serais soit tuée, soit je ne serais pas revenue (j'entends d'ici le soupir du Doyen Jutras, qui aurait bien aimé ne

national était obligatoire en ce moment, je quitterais la faculté sans rien après trois ans alors que mes camarades de cégep auraient, eux, leur diplôme de l'Université de Montréal...

Je n'ai rien contre la common law. En fait, je n'ai fait qu'un seul crédit de common law de moins que ceux qui reçoivent les deux diplômes. Je sais apprécier l'avantage de la diversité et tout ce que cela implique dans ma vision du droit. De là à imposer cette vision-là, à enseigner les deux, main dans la main... je ne sais pas. Cela pourrait fonctionner, sans doute, si on ne fait pas l'erreur trop souvent commise au Québec d'appliquer une réforme qui n'est pas mûre. J'admets fort volontiers qu'un tronc commun, beaucoup plus commun que celui qu'on connaît serait bénéfique. Mais le revers de cette médaille, est-ce que ce n'est pas une fermeture, une certaine rigidité? McGill a déjà un curriculum orienté de façon précise. On y forme des avocats qui feront de l'argent, beaucoup d'argent, et qui devront, s'ils veulent se questionner un peu, faire leur chemin tout seuls, ou presque. Est-ce que l'on veut vraiment rendre la chose encore plus rigide?

Ce débat me touche beaucoup, parce que je suis de ces étudiants que, d'une façon ou d'une autre, un programme national obligatoire aurait écartés. Tant mieux, diront certains, pas besoin de filles aux cheveux rouges dans MA faculté, ni de grande gueule qui insulte Pierre-Elliott Trudeau à tour de bras. Tant mieux, diront d'autres, de toute façon elle ne veut pas devenir avocate et n'a pas sa place ici. Tant mieux, diront d'autres encore, ça fera de

cette petite voix, qui n'est ni votre conscience ni votre enfant intérieur, mais votre instinct. Et mon instinct à moi, il tient à sa liberté de choix, et il craint ceux qui tentent de le recruter, de le ligoter ou de le baillonner.

Encore un changement de sujet. Tant qu'à aller dans mon intimité, allons-y à fond. J'ai quelque chose à dire, qui n'est qu'un fait, mais qui dérange, ou inquiète, ou qui fait naître des préjugés insensés. Cet automne, j'ai su, enfin, que je souffre de dépression. Enfin, parce que je ne suis pas folle, ni si paresseuse que ça, mais que c'est la chimie de mon cerveau qui est malade, que mon malaise de vivre n'est pas inventé par mon imagination délirante de schizophrène en devenir. Non. Je suis malade, c'est physique, et ça se soigne. Prozac, ça vous fait peur? Dans les films et à la télé, on vous dit qu'il s'agit d'une (happy pill), que bien souvent on en devient dépendant. Bull shit. Je ne prends pas de Prozac, non. Mettons les points sur les I(), je prends du Zoloft, c'est-à-dire l'équivalent. Ça vous choque? Je vous emmerde.

La dépression n'est pas une tare personnelle, ce n'est pas le signe que l'on est stupide ou lâche. La dépression vous tient, elle vous fait tourner en rond et vous empêche de demander de l'aide, elle vous culpabilise et vous fait dépérir. Les gens autour de vous voudraient que vous vous preniez en main, they say (oh, snap out of it, will you?(). Mais être dépressif, ce n'est pas être déprimé. C'est être déprimé, tout le temps, sans pouvoir s'en sortir seul; c'est dormir trop ou trop peu, pleurer pour rien et sans arrêt, ne pas pouvoir faire quelque

car comme tout tabou, cela rend les gens inconfortables. Mais j'ai l'impression que je dois aller plus loin, que je me dois d'en parler davantage, parce que je vais mieux, un peu, et que je peux dire qu'il y a de l'espoir. Selon moi, on ne guérit pas d'une dépression. Enfin pas vraiment. Comme un alcoolique, je resterai toujours dépressive. Mais, comme lui peut être sobre, moi je ne suis pas toujours déprimée. Le risque de (rechûte) est toujours là, pour l'un comme pour l'autre, mais il y a aussi de l'espoir, ce que l'on ne sait pas quand on *crash* un samedi soir alors que rien en tant que tel ne va mal.

Je veux parler de dépression aussi parce que, pour une raison ou une autre, les universités sont pleines de dépressifs. Tant chez les profs que chez les élèves. J'ai d'ailleurs déjà entendu une théorie voulant que les gens intelligents soient davantage sujets à la dépression parce qu'ils voient toujours les deux côtés d'une situation, et qu'ils sont déchirés entre les deux. J'aime bien cette théorie et, même si elle me flatte indûment, je crois qu'elle a quelque chose de vrai. Souvent, chez nous, dans cette faculté, on fait tout pour sauver les apparences, et je ne peux même pas imaginer un prof en complet-cravate nous parler de ces difficultés côté moral. Et nous aussi, jeunes adultes priant pour notre entrée dans une profession difficile d'accès (du moins par les chemins les plus nobles...), nous taisons nos drames mentaux.

Pourtant si on se tait un peu pendant un cours, quand le prof fait une pause dans son discours, si on fait bien attention, on peut entendre des âmes hurler.

pas avoir à *dealer* avec mes états d'âme cette année). Je ne pense pas qu'à 17 ans on puisse s'engager pour quatre ans. Je ne crois même pas qu'à 21 on le peut. En tout cas moi je ne voudrais pas. Et parlons donc argent un peu. Oui, je sais, il y en a parmi vous qui ne parlez pas de l'argent comme d'un problème à surmonter mais plutôt comme une mine renouvelable à exploiter. Eh bien ce n'est pas mon cas. J'ai des dettes par-dessus la tête, et je n'ai droit aux prêts et bourses que pour un an encore au premier cycle. Résultat, si je voulais faire la quatrième année ET le Barreau, il me faudrait absolument un cabinet qui me paie mes frais de scolarité. I just don't see it happening. Bref, un an aux études, c'est beaucoup d'argent (je n'imagine même pas ce que ça signifie pour les étudiants dits (matures(qui laissent leur emploi pour retourner aux études...). Et le manque de ressources, ce n'est pas quelque chose que l'on peut deviner quatre ans à l'avance. Bref, pour des raisons monétaires entre autres, je trouve incroyable que l'on puisse vouloir rendre le programme national de quatre ans obligatoire. À moins, bien sûr, que la faculté ne souhaite accueillir que des étudiants fortunés... ce qui ne me surprendrait pas outre mesure, mais je doute que qui que ce soit veuille l'admettre à voix haute.

Ne me dites pas qu'en demandant un engagement ferme de quatre ans on attirerait des gens plus sérieux. Je ne suis pas une tête brûlée, et je voulais, au départ, faire le programme national, et c'était la décision la plus sérieuse qui soit. Mais, que ce soit de 18 à 21 ans ou de 22 à 25, on change beaucoup, et ce n'est pas un changement prévisible. Si le programme

la place pour des gens plus matures (i.e. qui ne viennent pas du cégep (et qui parlent moins de leurs chats...)). Et bien oui, tant mieux pour ces gens-là. Mais tant pis pour tous les autres qui ne se sentent pas totalement chez eux ici, pour ceux qui n'ont pas toujours le cœur de dire que (oui, ça va bien, and you?(), tant pis aussi pour ceux qui sortent des sentiers battus et pour ceux qui en arrachent. Si vous voulez de votre petite faculté bien-pensante, riche au possible, élitiste et dont le moule est encore plus rigide qu'il ne l'est actuellement, c'est parfait. En fait, je décolle, alors je m'en fiche, right? Ouais. Mais moi je sais comment on se sent quand on n'est pas exactement à sa place, quand on voudrait prendre ses jambes à son cou et qu'on se retient de le faire. Or, je me dis que si on rend la faculté encore plus spécifique, si on ne veut qu'une certaine clientèle, et qu'on ne forme que des avocats d'un certain type, eh bien ce sera bien dommage pour ceux qui ne correspondent pas au moule, pour ceux qui, comme moi, ont passé les mailles du filet sans que quiconque ne s'en aperçoive. Tant pis pour eux, qui seront malheureux longtemps ou rejoindront les rangs. Mais tant pis surtout pour la faculté, qui n'aura alors pas compris quelle richesse elle peut trouver dans la diversité, quel monde juridique nouveau elle aurait pu créer en laissant à de futurs avocats une liberté qui, à mon sens, leur revient de droit.

En vérité, je ne vous conseille pas de m'écouter. Ce n'est pas en m'écoutant que vous gagnerez bourses et médailles, ni que vous deviendrez associé chez McCarthy Tétrault. Ce n'est pas non plus en m'écoutant que vous serez une personne heureuse. Vaudrait mieux écouter en vous,

chose (comme se lever ou manger), c'est cela et bien d'autre chose. C'est une maladie que bien peu de gens comprennent, et que pratiquement tout le monde associe à une déficience de personnalité. Ben oui je vois un psychiatre. Pis? Ce qui fait que bien des dépressifs se suicident, c'est l'opinion trop répandue que la dépression, on s'en sort seul, et que les pilules, c'est dangereux, ou qu'avec un minimum de force de volonté, on n'en aurait pas besoin. Bref, bien peu de gens ont le courage de consulter un médecin. Moi j'avais la chance d'avoir quelqu'un à mes côtés, qui a décidé qu'il m'arrêterait dans ma spirale d'auto-destruction.

Si je parle de cela aujourd'hui, c'est que je suis fatiguée qu'on ne parle de dépression qu'à voix basse, qu'on prenne un air triste quand je dis que je prends des médicaments. Si j'étais diabétique, qui voudrait que je cesse de prendre mon insuline? Eh bien ma maladie est aussi réelle que le diabète, et aussi mortelle quand elle n'est pas soignée, bien que les statistiques ne puissent le prouver. Le Zoloft, comme les Prozac, ne rendent pas heureux. Ils ne font que permettre à un dépressif de redevenir lui-même. Sur quelqu'un qui n'est pas dépressif, eh bien ça ne fait absolument rien.

Peu de gens comprennent, et en se taisant, on entretient le tabou. Eh bien ça suffit. Il est temps de pouvoir parler de dépression, de bipolarité (ce qu'on appelle couramment maniaco-dépression), et du reste. Le tabou entourant ce genre de maladie est aussi nocif que la maladie; c'est un piège, et depuis le début, je refuse de m'y laisser enfoncer. Je suis très ouverte à propos de ma dépression, quand le sujet vient dans la conversation. Mais pas trop,

Mais les remèdes sont accessibles, et le support est disponible, croyez-le ou non. Moi, j'en ai trouvé sur un newsgroup, si, si. Alt.support.depression. Et je m'y suis fait des amis. Incroyable, n'est-ce-pas? Il y a là des gens de tous âges, de tous milieux, avec seulement un point en commun: ils comprennent. On peut leur dire (ce soir je veux mourir(, on peut dire (j'ai mangé 4 kilos de crème glacée et je ne me sens pas mieux(, (mon chat m'a léché la main et ça m'a rendue heureuse pour la première fois depuis six mois(, (ma blonde est une crise de vache et ma mère une salope(. N'importe quoi. Mais ils sont là, et ils écoutent, et ils aident aussi. C'est toute une communauté qui s'accroche, c'est l'ancre dont on a besoin pour prendre son élan, c'est un coussin que des amis posent sur le sol quand ils voient que l'on va de nouveau tomber.

Il y a des bouquins aussi. Cet automne, j'ai lu *Prozac Nation* mais je ne savais pas comment vous en parler. Pour un non-dépressif, le parcours de l'auteure est vraiment frustrant... frustrant comme une dépression. Pour quelqu'un qui vit cela jour après jour, c'est une catharsis. C'est mettre en mots une douleur inexprimable.

Il y a les amis aussi, mais ce n'est pas évident. Dur pour eux de comprendre, dur de ne pas le prendre personnel. Alors moi je suis là. Je ne suis pas psychologue, je ne suis pas tous les jours agréable et/ou saine d'esprit, mais si ça faisait du bien à quelqu'un de parler, je suis là. Par e-mail, en personne, n'importe quoi. Personne d'autre n'a d'aussi bonnes raisons que moi de parler, ni autant les moyens de le faire, alors voilà.

REPORTS OF MY DEATH BEING GREATLY EXAGGERATED

WHITE

LLB III

FISHER

Greetings, sports fans, and welcome to sunny 1997. Although hockey has been played since we all came back in January, absent from these pages (perhaps notably?) have been any reports from your Man at McConnell. Reports and rumours as to my well-being have run rampant. The best I've heard is that I was seen in a disheveled state at the St. Valentine's day party leaning up against the bar as though I was Bob Woodward having cracked the big scoop. A close runner-up was that I had grown my hair and taken to playing the flute at Hurley's in such a manner as to make academics dance. Frankly, these are all untrue. I, and the great sport of hockey, are both better than ever. It's play-off time, you know.

Between 2:15 pm on Sunday March 9 and 9:15 on Monday March 10, four of our Faculty's intrepid intramural teams took to the ice in playoff games. Sadly, the season ended all too soon for two of them, but two yet remain to carry the good name of Law to glory and fleeting immortality. With the exception of the fine staff at the Brass, no one had a better weekend than I did.

First up was one of our Women's League teams going under the *nom de sport* of Public Offenders. My greatest regret of this past season is that I was never able to get out to see this team on a regular basis, despite frequent invitations from its coach, Emmett "Fibber" Duncan. This Sunday was no different: a seditious mid-term conspired to keep me away yet again.

out decidedly in Fagan's favour, with their speedy forwards seeming to catch the Prosecutors one and all back on their heels, or flat on their backs. But with this game, the Prosecutors knew what to expect from Fagan, and sought to be better prepared for the Finley-Kuzie-Elie-Kleinmeyer onslaught.

From the opening face-off, the game was clearly Fagan's. The first five minutes were played with such speed and intensity by the Fagan front lines that the Prosecutors defense and offense were forced into a siege mentality: Just get it out. That initial attack led to three quick Fagan goals, none of which the Loquacious One had much of a chance on. However, the Prosecutors regrouped and held Fagan to those three goals for the remainder of the first period, even managing some tentative pressure in Fagan's zone. Going into intermission, it looked, to trot out a delicious cliché, as though the momentum was on the Prosecutor's side.

Such proved to be the case. A Gretzkian pass from behind the net found Russell Chong unencumbered and Fagan goaler J-P Daoust unprepared. Shortly thereafter, Nicolas "The Natural" Robichon found a similarly lonesome puck on J-P's doorstep and quickly banged it home. The Prosecutors had pulled within one, but then something truly unexpected occurred in the Fagan camp. As Prosecutors' defender "Steady" Steve Kelly put it after the game, "That team has the ability to go down, but then pick it back up again just when you think you've got them beat and come back hard". And come back hard Fagan did. While

shoulder, the worst place for a goalie to make a glove save.

The Prosecutors never recovered from the fourth Fagan goal, let alone the three that followed. Honourable mention must be given, in his final McGill intramural game, to Allan "Crazy Legs" Coleman, who put on a veritable clinic for wingers in 2-on-1's with a stellar pass to "Downtown" Wade Dougherty. So unprepared for such a pass was Downtown that his shot just missed the far post; might-have-beens, by that point, were moot anyway. Equally honourable was the sportsmanship showed by Dan Elie, who with some two minutes left to play and Fagan up by five goals, changed his certain breakaway at the blue line into a harmless wiffler into the corner and wheeled off to the bench. The class of a loser is usually presumed; the class of a winner is sometimes less certain, except in Fagan's case.

On a personal note, I wanted to submit something appropriate to the Love Quid edition, but just couldn't make the deadline. With the good grace of my editors, I offer it now for your consideration: **HOCKU**

*Gloves are off, fists fly
Impact! Impact! Break it up.
One more fart for couch.*

With any luck, stay tuned for a final report from your Man at McConnell as I follow these teams through to their inevitable victory laps. Hey, just because "Brother" Red isn't optimistic about his team doesn't mean I can't be about mine. Cheers, all.

President's choice

DOMINIQUE

BCL III

LAPIERRE

Oooooh! I didn't have a lot of time this week to write my bi-monthly article so it's kind of brief!

Check it out! There are a lot of things happening around the Faculty! *Donc gardez vos yeux ouverts, soyez alertes et lisez tous vos e-mails!* Curriculum reform report, elections, new towel dispensers(!), committee interviews (we now have an alumni committee), alumni Coffee house, we'll keep you posted on everything.

Skit Nite - a smashing success! With Skin Tite belting out the tunes, with the performers all dancing in synch, with our very own "soul man" (the Toopster) and the new lead singer for REM (D. Jutras), this 1997 Skit Nite show was beyond compare! And Boy, did we show them the money, eh Jacque! (\$20,000 big ones!) Huge amounts of gratitude to Dan and Jacque, Clare and John, the fundraising committee, and the countless others who devoted time and energy, sweat and tears to make this show a crowning success! For all the details, see the Final issue of the Quid.

Bonne chance à tous ceux qui se présentent aux élections! Next issue: don't miss the last President's choice!

The Offenders captured the victory 2-1 in overtime with 3:45 left to play before the result would have been determined by penalty shot. By the time this column sees the light of day, the Offenders will have played their game in the semi-finals of the Women's League. Using the Defense of the 12 Monkeys, I wish them luck and would advise you to attend.

That Sunday evening, our other Women's League team, Malum in Se, stepped out prepared to be the second qualifier from Law for the Women's semis. Complete with goalie returned from top-secret duty in the National Capital Region, Malum faced a reputedly strong team that had reached the finals the year before. Quite frankly, it did not show, except in the final score: Malum went down 2-0, but not without a hell of a fight. Malum's forward lines, led by Alex Johnston and the highly determined Dom Hussey, kept up the pressure in the offensive zone all game long. Only a stellar performance by the opposing goaler — doing her best Dominic Hasek at times — kept Malum off the boards. Malum's defense was stingy, with the usual standout games from "Chef" Alex Otis and Roxanne (whose stick I have dubbed the "Irish"). In all, it was a game Malum deserved to win and would have won had a couple of bounces gone their way. Meagre consolation I'm sure for one of the more spirited teams this reporter has ever watched.

Monday night brought upon the intramural hockey world what some were likening to the Rumble in the Jungle: the second meeting between Men's B League Law teams Spawn of Fagan and the Prosecutors, this time winner take all. The first meeting had come

perhaps not up to the pace of the first five minutes, Fagan took it to the Prosecutors everywhere, leading one of the smattering of spectators (Shame!) to remark, "It looks like there are twice as many yellow [Fagan] jerseys as there are black [Pros]". From this resurrection flowed four goals, all but one achieved by hard work around the Prosecutor's net. That one exception was a slapper from Dan Elie from about the hash-marks that flew over the Loquacious One's left shoulder, gently ringing off the crossbar as it shot into the net. The shot was placed, from my vantage point, exactly halfway between Louis' head and

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It's the end of the Quid year, so say what you've been meaning to say all year;

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Junk mail

HELENE

BCL III

JUTRAS

Sometimes you just got to love junk mail. Really. I recently received the most incredibly stupid catalog, and I just have to share some of it with someone... Please believe me, I didn't make this stuff up, even though it would make the world a lot less scary if I had. These things actually exist, and people actually buy them (I guess).

1- "Billy Bob Teeth": For 24.95\$, you can get a new set of teeth, and look like some freakish-red-neck-monster that has just come out of the worst X-files episode ever. Now, the question is why you'd wanna look like that...

2- "Turbo-kite": a kite is a kite is a kite, right? Wrong. This one has the shape of a flying saucer with "flying saucer detail printed on brilliant mylar"!

3- For the man who has everything, including the dozen of different disco lights featured in this wonderful catalog, buy the "Bud Party Lights": Imagine a set of Christmas lights, but the lightbulbs are in the shape of miniature Budweiser bottles...

4- Once you give him the Bud lights, and he truly has everything, why not go for the "alien boxing puppets"? It's like those disgusting plastic guys with boxing gloves that have been around since the fifties, but with the face of an alien. Now who couldn't find a use for that?

5- But maybe your father's birthday is coming up and you want to get something classy? Why not a "Deluxe Ninja Uniform"? It even has a "gusseted crotch for

cool? "Aaahh, this show ain't no good..." 13- Now this I have to quote entirely: "Motion Activated Croaking Frog: "Ribbets" loudly when anyone walks within 12 feet. Place in your entry way to greet guests. Or hide him to scare your friends. *Makes a perfect pet*". No comments.

14- For those young-at-hearts who laughed their youth away playing with whoopee cushions: "Electronic Whoopee Cushions"! It's called a "Remote controlled Fart Machine". Just when you thought Pop-tarts were the best invention ever....

15- If you're like me, you think nothing is funnier than pretending that you're hiding a corpse in the trunk of your car... that's why they invented "life-like legs" that you can stick just about anywhere to (notice the quotation marks) "create laugh riots".

16- This one I really want: for only 29.95, I can get, believe it or not, a "Live Size Standup" of Pamela Anderson or of a Baywatch-bimbo. Before ordering, please go on the roof of the highest building you can find, look down, and if you're still thinking about ordering it, jump. The rest of humanity thanks you.

17- You know those pajamas that Jean-Luc Picard used to wear? Well, you can have one too, for only 50 bucks! By the way, they only come in adult sizes... Has anybody else ever noticed how the Enterprise's crew always had to reajust its shirt when getting up? You'd think the people having invented replicators and warp engines could design better clothing...

18- For the classy-type guys who want to attract the ladies out there: The hippie-

...Et c'est pour ça que je déteste les ordinateurs: Conte philosophique

VÉRONIQUE-ELISABETH

BCL III

MARQUIS

Je désire dédier cet article à Marcel Naud, mon grand manitou de l'informatique. Je sais d'avance qu'il me dira que si j'avais un Mac, tout ceci ne serait pas arrivé. Mais tant pis. Je fais ça pour lui faire plaisir...

Je suis l'heureuse propriétaire d'un mignon ordinateur portatif, que j'ai affectueusement baptisé Babe, en l'honneur de son cochon homonyme. Babe, ces derniers temps, se sentait fatigué (lire: l'adaptateur de courant faisait des siennes). Puis, un beau vendredi, juste avant la semaine de relâche, l'adaptateur me lâche complètement. C'est la panique: il me faut du jus, et il m'en faut maintenant.

Toute confiante, je me dirige vers Crazy Irving. En fait, confiante, c'est beaucoup dire: quand j'ai voulu acheter mon ordinateur, j'étais allée voir leurs modèles avec mon copain, et le vendeur s'était adressé à lui exclusivement. Une attitude assez sexiste, que je n'ai pas encore digérée. Mais ne nous éloignons pas du sujet.

Chez Crazy Irving, je parle à l'un des préposés au service technique. Comme c'est l'heure du lunch, il me dit qu'il ne peut pas rejoindre la compagnie pour le moment, mais qu'il le fera tout de suite après. Et qu'il me rappellera. Soit dans l'après-midi, soit dès lundi. Je rechigne un peu, car c'est quand même quelques journées perdues, mais je prends mon mal en patience.

Le week-end passe. Le lundi aussi. Ma patience, qui a des limites quand même,

incompétents. Bref, je querelle, je m'énerve, je ne m'en vais pas. Et le technicien accepte d'opérer la queue de Babe (lire son fil électrique). Sans frais. C'est toujours ça de pris. Mais ce ne peut être que temporaire. Ça briserait, rien qu'en soufflant dessus.

Alors, je reviens chez moi, bien déterminée à trouver une solution de rechange à l'ennui de santé de mon animal de compagnie. J'irai chez le vétérinaire, s'il le faut.

J'appelle certains autres magasins. Personne n'a l'adaptateur dont j'ai besoin en stock. On ne veut pas même me le commander. Un endroit me dit que la pièce est discontinuée. J'appelle le bureau d'Epson à Montréal. La réceptionniste me dit qu'ils ont deux points de vente à Montréal: Ville St-Laurent et Boucherville. Ne vous installez pas trop au centre-ville, s'il vous plaît. Des fois que ce serait pratique pour les clients.

J'appelle ces deux points de vente. L'un me dit que ça me coûtera autour de 100\$, l'autre 240\$. Belle homogénéité. Finalement, le premier me rappelle pour me dire que la pièce n'est pas disponible au Canada en ce moment et qu'ils devront la faire venir des États-Unis. Beaux délais en perspective.

Là, là, ça va faire. J'appelle Epson Canada à Toronto. Juste pour rire, je fais le 2 pour parler à un de leurs commis en français. Comme je m'en doutais, il n'y a aucun service en français. Juste une boîte vocale. Alors, pourquoi ne pas l'avouer dès le départ plutôt que de me faire perdre mon temps? Je raccroche et je rappelle, en faisant le 1 cette fois, pour parler vraiment

kicking”!

6- You think you're being followed? It's ok, you can see behind you if you have "Spy Sunglasses" but be careful: it comes with a warning: "girls on the beach may never trust you if they find out your secret" oooooh.

7- Bored in class? You can listen to the radio without anyone noticing: just plug earphones into your "Survival Radio watch"!

8- For those long study nights, maybe some guys will need a little help... it's ok, "Golden Lion Formula" is there for them. Hey, the recipe comes from a Chinese man who "fathered 35 children between the age of 60 & 90", so it has to work! (And if you believe that, I've got a piece of real estate to sell you...)

9- A trip to Las Vegas is expensive these days... so why not get your very own slot machine? Ok, so it works only with tokens and it costs 600\$ (American, of course...), but will you ever get tired of the sound and sight of that 75lbs kitchy metallic noisy wonder of technology in your living room?

10- If the slot machine is too much for you, it may be that you prefer conventional lotto... But you can't win without the "Lucky lotto Pen". It has a ball at the end, containing microscopic balls with numbers, and when you put it in its upright position, six numbers go down the body of the pen. No more of that hard thinking for numbers!

11- For the inquisitive mind, what could be better than an "authentic" security pass to... Area 51!? It even has fingerprints on it (whose they are, they don't say...).

12- You know how you always lose that damn remote control? Well, you'd never lose the new and improved "Trigger action tv Channel Changer", cause it's just too fun to use! It's made in the shape of a... oh, I can't say it... a gun! Isn't that

cap, complete with long, slimy, gray-ish hair, and the ponytail cap, coming with 12 inches of ugly-looking 80's hair (your choice of colors). Not yet convinced? Listen to this: "you'll be surprised how many wild and crazy things you can get away with while wearing a cap with a 12" ponytail"! I think they mean people will leave you alone, cause they won't want to associate with someone with such obvious poor taste...

19- You know how sometimes you get really tired, but you don't want to go to bed, and your mom's not there to make you, so you'll stay up but you don't have the strength to actually sit up to watch crap on tv? Well, you don't have to sit up if you've got the amazing "right angle viewer"! It looks like huge ugly glasses, but it has mirrors in it, allowing you to just lie somewhere while seeing what's on tv... When I suggested that we order a few hundreds and distribute them at the faculty and that we replace desks with mattresses, dean Jutras didn't seem too enthusiastic. 20- The "Instant Slush Mug" "changes almost any beverage into a *scrumptious*, frozen dessert". Hmmm... slushy beeeer...

For those who will believe these inventions to be a direct product of my imagination, I shall keep the catalog safely, as proof that if I am insane, this article is not valid evidence to that effect. And maybe someday I'll feel like ordering a super whoopee cushion, or a life-like cockroach, or even a radio-watch, into which I can plug earphones so I am finally able to look cool and worry free! Or maybe someday, a long time from now, I will find that catalog again, and I will laugh, 'cause I'll see in there the t-shirt my teenage son just bought himself, with a huge woman on it saying how she lost her poodle, and you can clearly see the poor little fluffy thing is stuck in her huge butt. If that happens, and I really start to laugh, it'll be the kind of laughter that never ends, because the

s'effrite comme un vieux plafond. Le mardi, je décide d'appeler chez Irving le fou (quelle traduction élégante, entre vous et moi). Mais c'est impossible. Personne ne répond au téléphone, là-bas. Il faut s'y rendre pour parler à leurs préposés. Je n'ai que cela à faire, peut-être.

Me revoilà chez Irving le cr***e. Le commis qui m'avait répondu n'est pas là. J'explique la situation à un autre commis, qui me demande qui m'a servie. Est-ce que je sais, moi? Il ne m'a pas laissé sa carte d'affaires. Il est Asiatique, c'est tout ce que je peux dire, et c'est ce que je lui réponds. Il me dit qu'il arrivera dans 20 minutes, et est-ce que je peux l'attendre? Soupir. Oui, je peux.

Pour faire une histoire courte, 20 minutes plus tard, je rencontre le commis en question. Surprise: ce n'est pas du tout celui qui m'avait servie! Premièrement, il est noir. Oups. Quand je disais Asiatique, je pensais à Thanh-Tram, pas au Pakistan. Merde. Alors, c'est reparti pour expliquer mon histoire, en anglais, pour la troisième fois. Car si Irving est fou, il n'est certes pas bilingue. J'apprends finalement que ma demande s'est perdue et n'a jamais été envoyée à Epson. Et qu'il faudra au moins 5 jours avant d'obtenir la pièce. Qui, plutôt que de coûter environ 60\$ comme on m'avait dit d'abord, en coûte 175\$. Aaargh! Là, j'ai sorti mes griffes. Je n'allais pas laisser Babe sans vie durant tout ce temps, quand même. Et d'abord, j'allais leur faire une réputation, à ces

à quelqu'un (donc en anglais). La préposée me dit que oui, ils ont la pièce que je veux en stock, qu'elle coûte 200\$, et qu'ils me l'envoient dès aujourd'hui par Purolator de Toronto. On est mercredi: je l'aurai donc le lendemain; au plus tard, vendredi. Résignée, je donne mon numéro de carte de crédit. Il faut quand même aimer beaucoup ces petites bêtes...

Le jeudi passe, le vendredi aussi. Il est 4h. Je décide d'appeler Purolator, qui ne peuvent pas me dire où en est mon adaptateur car je n'ai pas le numéro de livraison. Rappelle donc à Toronto. Où l'on me dit que j'aurai mon colis "first thing, Monday morning". Donc, livrer une enveloppe de Toronto à Montréal aura pris 5 jours. Par Purolator. Heureusement que c'est un service accéléré.

Finalement, ce n'est que le mardi que j'ai eu la chance de recevoir mon adaptateur, car après tout, je ne peux pas passer ma vie cloîtrée à attendre Godot ou un adaptateur.

Ce qui m'emmerde finalement dans toute cette histoire, c'est le nombre incroyable d'incompétents auxquels j'ai dû m'adresser avant de recevoir le service que je demandais. Il y a là-dedans un petit côté initiatique qui m'énerve. Comme si on devenait esclave d'une sombre bande d'imbéciles qui ont prêté serment de nous faire perdre notre temps à tout prix. Eh bien les gars, c'était réussi. Et c'est pour cela que je hais les ordinateurs. Et tout ce qui les entoure.

TOPTEN SPECIAL!

Dernière date de tombée:
Vendredi 28 mars ~ 12h00

An Acclaimed Politician's Belated Platform

PAUL
BCL I
FLICKER

This article should have come out several weeks ago when I was running for McGill Senate. Since, however, I at first had no competition and then once an opponent was found we were both acclaimed, the impetus for the article seemed to disappear. Maintenant qu'il a été déterminé que je serais sénateur des étudiants en Droit, je souhaiterais présenter la plateforme que je défendrais.

I believe that there are four instances where University regulations have proved unsuitable for Faculty of Law students. Accordingly, I plan to introduce to Senate next year motions on the following matters:

- (1) to extend course change and withdrawal period
- (2) to print course evaluations
- (3) to place French on transcripts
- (4) to standardize grading schemes among various sections
- (5) to separate law from undergraduate transcripts

These are all matters that come under Senate jurisdiction.

As to extending the course and section change deadlines and withdrawal periods, I submit that the current practice of two weeks is ridiculously short, especially for courses that meet once a week for three hours. If a course outline is not submitted in the first class, then students have one class to decide whether to keep or drop a course. By the time students recover from Frosh Week, they are stuck in full-year courses. The present situation is unacceptable. Dean Jutras has said that

employeur ou on comité d'admission. S'il est requis par la plus part des universités de présenter des Bulletins de notes en anglais, une simple annotation de "version française" serait satisfaisante.

Issue four is what infuriates students most: the standardization of grading schemes of various sections. Grades should not be determined by an accident of the alphabet or by the language in which one chooses to take one's courses. In courses like Constitutional Law or Foundations it should not matter if your name ends in A or Z, nor should it matter if one elects to take Obligations in English or French. For example, take Civil Law Property and Droit des biens. By the University, they are considered one course. Thus one might reason that the grading schemes would be identical. How long could it possibly take Professors Kasirer and Lametti to phone each other and determine a grading scheme? How much time might the Examination Board save in re-grading exams if it approved similar grading schemes from the outset of the course?

To return to the above-listed professors, for the same course, Kasirer has a 25% mid-term and a 75% final; Lametti has a to-help midterm and a potential 100% final. Which means that if two students get D's in their respective mid-terms and A's on their finals, then Lametti's student gets an A as a final grade, while Kasirer's receives a B+.

There is nothing in and of itself wrong with Professor Kasirer's grading scheme except that McGill law students are ranked against one another at the end of the year.

at some point everyone in the faculty is adversely affected by a grading scheme; that is, at some point in our law school careers we all have the opportunity of getting equally screwed. I shall not respond to that argument. The second is that no matter what we do, we cannot avoid discrepancies in grading styles of the several professors. Granted; however, we can limit the variables. There is no need to aggravate the predicament of an imperfect system.

The third is that Dean Jutras claims that over a four-year programme that the difference between an A and a B+ is negligible -- only 0.03 on the CGPA. This is true. Indeed, it may not be sufficient to distinguish the gold medal winner from the student who places second. But, ask someone who finishes her degree with a 3.28 when Great Distinction is a 3.30 or someone who finishes his degree with a 2.97 when Distinction is a 3.00 whether 0.03 counts and you will get a vehement response. There is no denying that the grade you achieve makes an enormous difference to the value of your degree.

Finally, a professor in the faculty assured me if there is a huge discrepancy between December and April exams, course instructors tend to favour the April exam. This is all well and good; however, I do not think that we should be subject to the whims and fancies of individual professors. I would rather have clear policy guiding these crucial decisions.

The fifth and last issue I have with the university involves only students who have other degrees at McGill. I do not think that it is fitting or proper that McGill alumni should be forced to have one tran-

Histoire vraie

CONTRIBUTION SPÉCIALE
LE PIGEON DISSIDENT...

Témoignage à faire brailler d'un travailleur de la construction. Monsieur, vous êtes enregistré, auriez-vous l'amabilité de raconter les faits de l'accident.

J'pensais sauver du temps. J'ai fixé un madrier avec un poulie en haut de la bâtisse avec une corde que j'ai passée dans la poulie avec les deux bouttes qui descendent jusqu'à terre. J'ai attaché un baril vide au bout de la corde pis j'monte en haut de la bâtisse. Ensuite, j'attache l'autre bout de la corde à un arbre. Là, j'monte su'l toit pis j'remplis le baril d'briques. Ensuite j'retourne en bas pis j'viens pour détacher la corde pour faire descendre le crisse de baril. Malheureusement, le baril plein de briques est benque trop pesant pour moé, pis avant que j'réalise quoi que ce soit, hostie l'baril me monte en l'air d'une shotte. Là, chu trop haut pour lâcher la corde (pis j'monte toujours); j'me suis tenu après la corde en hostie.

À moitié chemin vers le haut, j'rencontre le crisse de baril qui descendait pis j'en reçois un coup sur l'épaule gauche. Tabarnak que ça m'a fait mal. Mais c'est pas toute; moé j'continue à monter. Rendu en haut, j'me pète la tête su'l crisse de madrier pis j'me prends les doights dans la poulie. Quand le baril touche à terre, le fond pète pis l'baril se vide. Astheure, ciboire, chu plus pesant

if this is done he is worried that there will be wide-scale abandonment of certain courses. The question which remains is what is it that the Faculty is protecting? If we are protecting sub-par or incompetent teaching or unfair grading schemes, then I have no problem exposing these weaknesses. It will make for a better faculty.

Similarly, why is that students do not have access to course evaluations. This may not be exclusively a Senate matter. If the Faculty is aware that courses are not working, it is wrong to withhold that information from students. Similarly, students should have accessible to them evaluations which state who are the best professors in the Faculty. Students fill out the forms, they should have access to them.

Le troisième point est qu'il n'est pas mentionné sur les bulletins de notes si les cours ont été pris en français ou en anglais. Si un étudiant a, par exemple, pris un cours en français, il serait à son avantage de le préciser, démontrant une telle caractéristique linguistique potentiellement recherchée par un futur

They are competing for limited space on the Dean's List and for the same course prizes. Though there is no prize specifically for the Civil Law Property/Droit des biens course, it does come directly into the calculation for at least four other prizes. Personally, I think that Lametti's system is superior (And it ought to be noted that section 3(c)(i) of the Examination Board Regulations states "that the holding of one voluntary mid-term examination (for which the grade obtained would not count for all or any part of the final grade in the course) in first term for first-year students is strongly encouraged"); but, be that as it may, what is intolerable is that grading schemes for the same course are different when we are ranked against one another at the end of the year. Though it may be argued that in the end the grades obtained in either section will be similar, the potential for individual students to improve their grades is not the same.

I have heard four arguments against standardized grading schemes. The first, which was put forward by a member of the administration of the faculty, is that

script for all their degrees. If the degrees are in the same faculty or are related or obtained simultaneously, then I understand the need to report them on one transcript. But I do not see why I must submit my English literature marks to law firms or my law marks to publishing houses in New York if (a) they do not specifically request them and (b) students from other universities who do law at McGill are not under any such obligation. It may be well known in the Canadian legal community that a B+ in Professor Scott's Constitutional Law is a fine grade, but one cannot expect a publisher in New York or a professor of English literature in California to be so informed.

These are all matters that require Senate approval and, indeed, can only be altered by the Senate. As an undergraduate, I had three years of experience on about 10 Senate committees, sub-committees and working groups. I believe that I have both the experience and drive to effect these changes. Finalement, je serai toujours disponible pour vous rencontrer et discuter des sujets sénatoriaux qui vous concernent.

que l'baril. Ça fait qu'hostie, là, j'descends en crise, pis à moitié chemin en descendant, j'rencontre le crise de baril, qui lui monte, pis j'en reçois un coup d'in jambes, pis là ça saigne. Rendu en bas, j'crisse le camp sur le tas d'briques. J'me suis coupé à cause des briques pointues.

Rendu là, j'me rappelle pas de grand-chose. Chu tout étourdi, ça fait que j'lâche la crise de corde maisle baril lui y descend en tabarnak pis me câlisse un coup sur la tête. Pis là, j'me retrouve à l'hôpital. C'est pour ça que je demande un congé de maladie. (Ce fait divers est, bien que cela soit difficile à croire, une histoire vécue et survécue par un travailleur de la construction venu expliquer son histoire à la CSST.)

VOTE!

AUDI ALTERUM PARTEM

SHAW

BCL III

LEWIS*

Unless you have been hiding under a stack of Canadian Abridgments, you are aware by now that the Ad Hoc Curriculum Implementation Committee has proposed, amongst other things, making the National Programme obligatory for all students. Regardless of your opinion on the merit of the reforms, the procedure that has been followed by the Ad Hoc Committee is a cause for serious concern.

At the onset, however, the Ad Hoc Committee must be applauded for its ambition. At a time when academic administration is often synonymous with inertia or a lack of creativity, the Ad Hoc Committee has proposed sweeping reforms. This is very exciting.

However, we should be less concerned about the substance of the new reforms, than the procedure that was followed in preparing them. (For a critique of the substance of the reforms, please see Gregory MacKenzie's article in this same issue entitled "Don't Force the National Programme".) It is distressing that the most substantial overhaul of the academic curriculum to be proposed in our lifetime was made in the absence of any serious

consultation with students.

Last year, the Law Students' Association formed its own Task Force on Curriculum and Examination Reform. In preparing its final report, the Task Force carried out a comprehensive consultation process within the Faculty: a series of focus groups were held, written submissions were made and questionnaires were distributed to the entire student body. While a diversity of opinions existed, the end result was a final report which reflected broad student consensus on a variety of issues.

The Task Force report marked a serious achievement for the student body. We had guaranteed the right to be taken seriously with regard to any future reform that was to occur in the Faculty. We were organized. We had a voice. We could not be ignored. Or, so we thought...

The events that have transpired since the LSA Task Force Report was released one year ago are enough to transform any idealist into a jaded cynic. Many of the proposed reforms in the Ad Hoc Committee Report are at complete variance with student concerns as expressed in the LSA Task Force Report. It should be inconceivable that proposals which would so profoundly impact the lives of students are made without

consideration for students' input. Nevertheless, this is exactly what has happened.

The introduction to the Ad Hoc Committee Report notes that the proposals contained therein are based upon "extensive consultations". Consultations with whom? No serious attempt was ever made to solicit student opinion. Moreover, the conclusions of the LSA Task Force Report were disregarded in, at least, one striking example. The LSA Report recommended "that the National Programme not be made mandatory for all students in the Faculty; rather, the Faculty should focus its efforts on creating a National Programme so attractive that students will not want to opt out of it". Nevertheless, the Ad Hoc Committee has proceeded with a proposal that a majority of students in the Faculty has rejected.

What ever happened to due process or the right to a fair hearing? In school, we are taught about the importance of procedural fairness. The maxim "audi alterum partem" is even engraved over the entrance of the school. One would think that in a law school, of all places, particular sensitivity would be given to ensuring a fair and just process. Yet, Faculty Council is about to consider a number of sweeping reform proposals that do not reflect

student concerns.

To make a business associations analogy, this is similar to the case of a board of directors running amok, while the shareholders search desperately for recourse. Where is the oppression remedy when it is needed most?

A great opportunity for change exists and it is one that should not be passed up. We all share a common desire to keep McGill at the forefront of Canadian legal education. We all share a common desire for reform and change. But, this is a road that must be travelled down together.

Education is a symbiotic process. For it to function effectively, both professors and students must contribute and benefit. And, *both* must also have a say in the decision-making process. No one should be entitled to act as judge, jury and executioner. Thankfully, the decision-making process is not yet complete as the reforms must receive the approval of Faculty Council. Let's hope that Faculty Council recognizes the injustice that has transpired and let's hope that it restores student opinion to the process, where it belongs.

* MEMBER OF THE LSA TASK
FORCE ON CURRICULUM AND
EXAMINATION REFORM

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